

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

November 13, 2002

IN RE:

CENTURYTEL OF ADAMSVILLE TARIFF TO INTRODUCE LATE PAYMENT CHARGES

DOCKET NO.
02-00829

IN RE:

CENTURYTEL OF CLAIBORNE TARIFF TO INTRODUCE LATE PAYMENT CHARGES

DOCKET NO.
02-00830

IN RE:

CENTURYTEL OF OOLTEWAH- COLLEGEDALE TARIFF TO INTRODUCE LATE PAYMENT CHARGES

DOCKET NO.
02-00831

ORDER ACCEPTING WITHDRAWAL

This matter came before Chairman Sara Kyle, Director Deborah Taylor Tate and Director Ron Jones of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the “Authority” or “TRA”), the voting panel assigned to the consolidated dockets, at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on September 23, 2002.

On July 31, 2002, CenturyTel of Adamsville, CenturyTel of Claiborne, and CenturyTel of Ooltewah-Collegedale (collectively referred to as "CenturyTel") filed tariffs to introduce late payment charges in connection with their residential and business customer accounts. The tariffs were filed with a proposed effective date of August 31, 2002.

The tariffs were originally assigned to two panels of Directors under three docket numbers. The tariffs of CenturyTel of Adamsville and CenturyTel of Ooltewah-Collegedale were assigned to the voting panel of Chairman Kyle, Director Tate and Director Jones under TRA Docket Nos. 02-

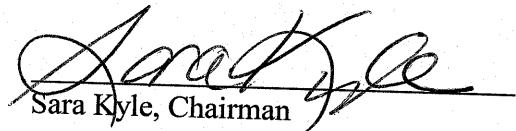
00829 and 02-00831, respectively. The tariff of CenturyTel of Claiborne was assigned to the voting panel of Chairman Kyle, Director Tate and Director Miller under TRA Docket No. 02-00830.

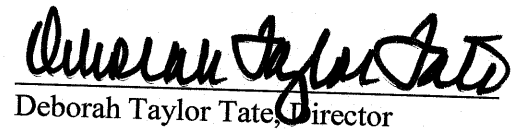
At a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on August 19, 2002, the Directors of each voting panel agreed that all three CenturyTel tariffs were based on the same set of issues and voted unanimously to consolidate all three tariffs under the panel of Directors assigned to TRA Docket No. 02-00829. In addition, the voting panel of Chairman Kyle, Director Tate and Director Jones voted unanimously to suspend the effective date of the tariffs for thirty (30) days to allow CenturyTel additional time to provide the information necessary to appropriately analyze the proposed tariffs. On September 10, 2002, CenturyTel filed a letter with the Authority requesting the tariffs be withdrawn from the Authority's consideration at this time.

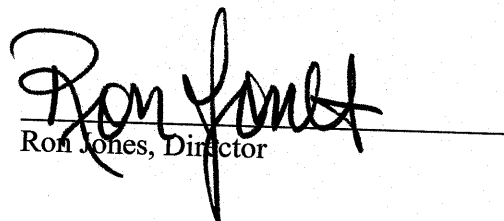
Upon careful consideration of CenturyTel's request for withdrawal of the three tariffs to introduce late payment charges filed by CenturyTel of Adamsville, CenturyTel of Claiborne and CenturyTel of Ooltewah-Collegedale and the entire record in this matter, the Directors voted unanimously to approve the withdrawal of the tariffs.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

The withdrawal of the tariffs to Introduce Late Payment Charges filed by CenturyTel in Docket Nos. 02-00829, 02-00830 and 02-00831, is approved.


Sara Kyle, Chairman


Deborah Taylor Tate, Director


Ron Jones, Director